

01272.020630



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

|                                 |   |                        |
|---------------------------------|---|------------------------|
| In re Application of:           | ) |                        |
|                                 | : | Examiner: K. Haupt     |
| YOSHINORI NAKAGAWA, ET AL.      | ) |                        |
|                                 | : | Group Art Unit: 2853   |
| Appln. No.: 10/658,276          | ) |                        |
|                                 | : | Allowed: June 29, 2005 |
| Filed: September 10, 2003       | ) |                        |
|                                 | : |                        |
| For: INK JET PRINTING APPARATUS | ) |                        |
| AND PRELIMINARY INK             | : |                        |
| EJECTION METHOD                 | ) | July 20, 2005          |

Mail Stop Issue Fee  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Sir:

In the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance attached to the Notice of Allowability mailed June 29, 2005, the Examiner listed reasons for the allowance of the claims. However, the features noted by the Examiner do not accurately reflect what is recited in each of the independent claims. For example, independent Claims 7 and 15 do not recite causing the same kind of nozzles in the nozzle column of each ink color to perform a preliminary ejection at a time. Further, independent Claims 13 and 15 are method claims and do not recite any "means". Nevertheless, Applicants respectfully submit that each of the pending claims is allowable for its combination of claimed features.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark A. Williamson", written over a horizontal line.

Mark A. Williamson  
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